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AOpen manufactures computer components as part of the successful \$7 billion Acer group. The group has more than 22 years of experience in the PC industry and over 700 patents in PC technology. Like AOpen, computer components function as part of a whole. To be successful, each component must work flawlessly within a broad range of other computer products. Understanding this, AOpen dedicates its engineering expertise to the production of components of quality, durability, and the utmost flexibility.

From bare systems, motherboards, CD-ROM/CD-RW/DVD drives, and monitors to multimedia add-on cards, and communication solutions, AOpen products offer the ultimate in performance and compatibility, unmatched by any other PC manufacturer in the world. Above all, to ensure the highest standard of quality, every AOpen product is manufactured and tested in strict ISO 14001 certified facilities, complying with the world's most rigid safety standards.

The "Open" of AOpen reveals a spirit that derives directly from the union of customers and products. The realization of this has been our drive towards Open Architecture products, Open Mind innovation, and our Open Business partnership with customers and distributor

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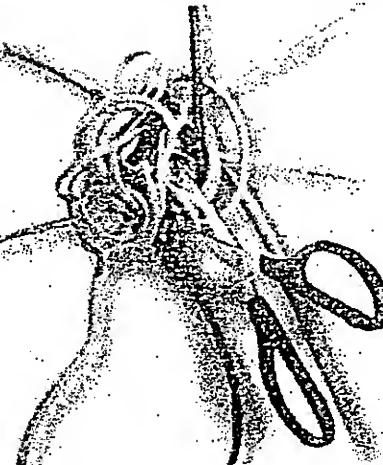


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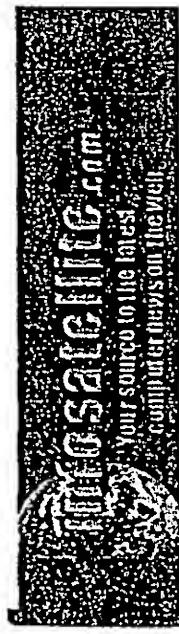


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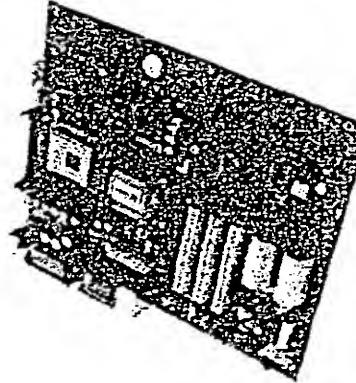
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By Ana Leticia Sigvartsen  
[InfoSatellite.com](#)  
 June 05, 2002

## AOpen releases mainboard with vacuum tubes

**AOpen** released yesterday an innovative (and even a little weird at first sight) product. The company is now promoting the world's first vacuum tube motherboard, called **AX4B-533Tube**. Even though the attention in this solution is all turned to the tubes, the chipset is still important, and, in this case, it's the **Intel 845E**.



AOpen explained that the idea didn't come from nowhere and seems to have solid foundations. The **AX4B-533Tube**, said the company, "incorporates the novel, modern-day adoption of an idea that was spawned by the invention of the electric light bulb by Thomas A. Edison back in 1879 - the vacuum tube."

The reason why AOpen decided to put the tubes in the new solution is allegedly to improve audio capabilities considerably. The company is turning its focus to "passionate audiophiles and extreme gamers," who the company expects are interested in having the best in audio technology. The solution can be complemented by retailers with speaker systems and the latest CD and DVD playback devices.

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expected, Nvidia

yesterday at Fall 2002 its new GPUs i

GeForceFX, or NV3x, fai

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A little more about how the idea was born: "We were all together late one night, kicking around lots of crazy ideas when I proposed it would be really cool if we could combine the warmth and depth - tonal realism, if you will - of the sound produced by

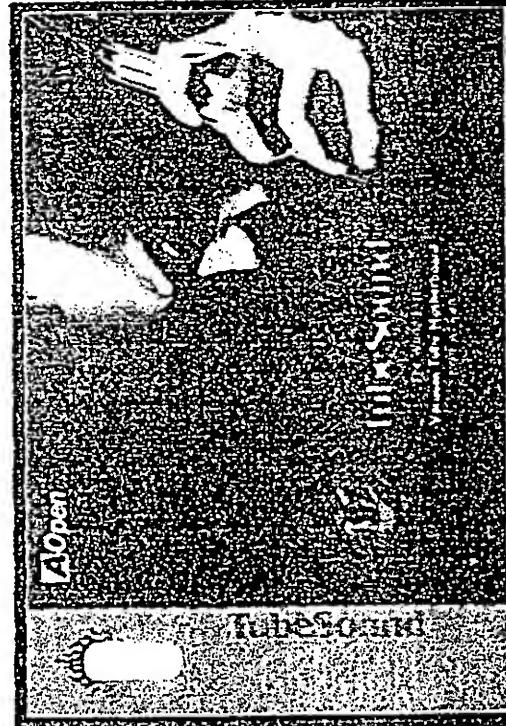
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## ■ others ■

an audio tube, with one of our state-of-the-art motherboards" said Al Peng, product manager at AOpen America. "Laughter turned into raves a few months later when we did our first lab demo of our unique hybrid creation. The reproduced sound was absolutely amazing. It left everyone stunned. What we realized at that moment was how the limitations of typical audio output from a PC as we knew it, had come to an end - and what we were pioneering was a way to literally combine the best of two audio worlds - old and new."

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AOpen defends the tubes as the best solution in terms of tonality and claims that the tube output stage of the AX4B-533Tube couples the two front digital stereo output channels with tube output, resulting in outstanding quality of sound.

Putting aside the tubes, let's get to the regular specifications: the AX4B-533Tube comes with the i845E chipset design and features DDR SDRAM memory channels delivering 2.1 GB/s of memory bandwidth to the processor, being made for the Intel Pentium 4 processor with 533MHz FSB. It comes with a 4X AGP slots, supports 4 ports of USB 2.0 and Ultra ATA/100 interface.

The AX4B-533Tube has an estimated street price of \$215 and fully supports ACPI 1.0 and APM 1.2 specs. It comes bundled with Norton Anti-Virus 2002 software.

(Sources: AOpen)

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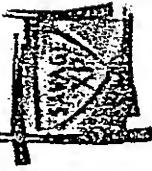
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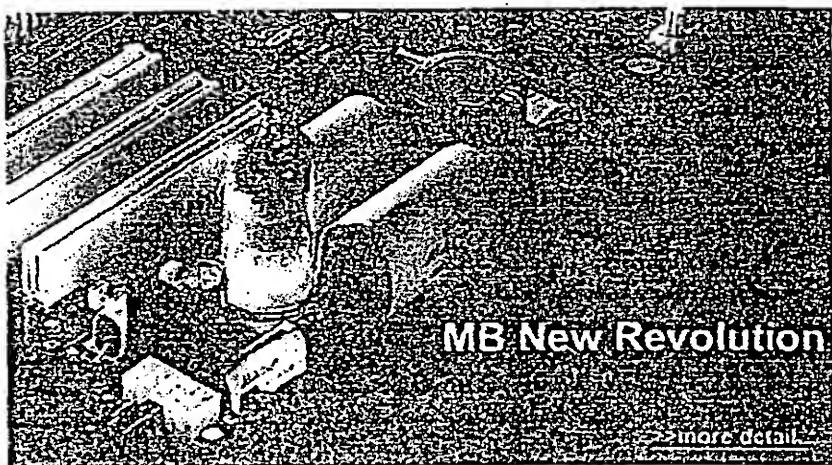
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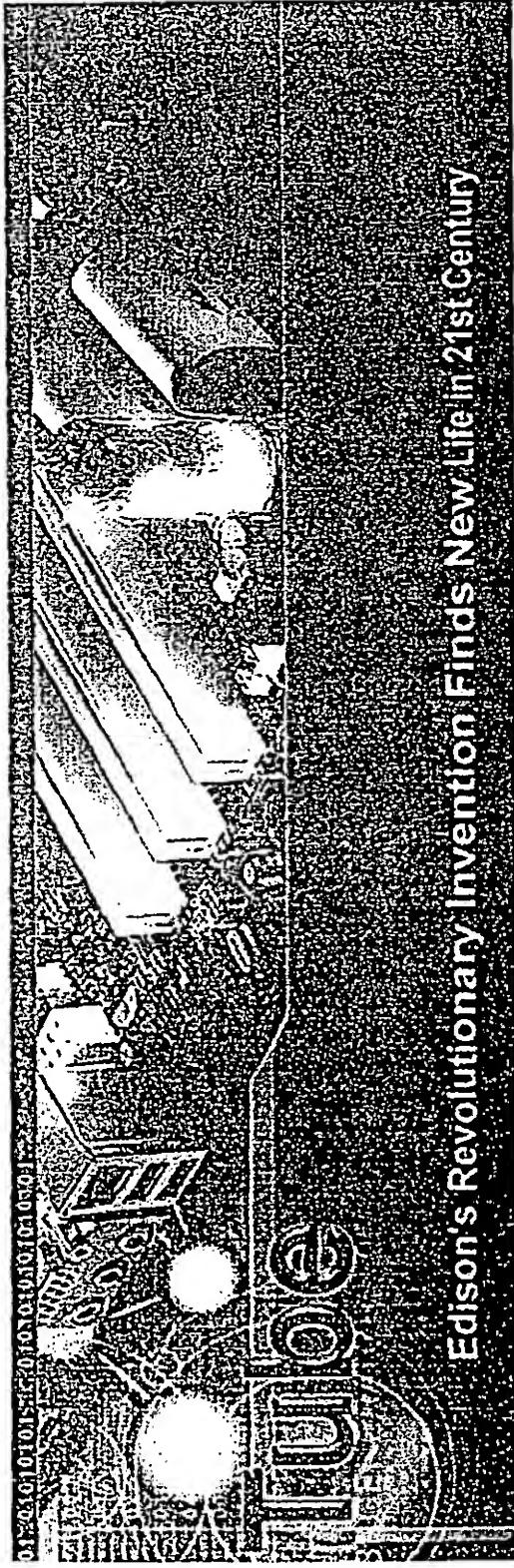
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## Edison's Revolutionary Invention Finds New Life in 21st Century

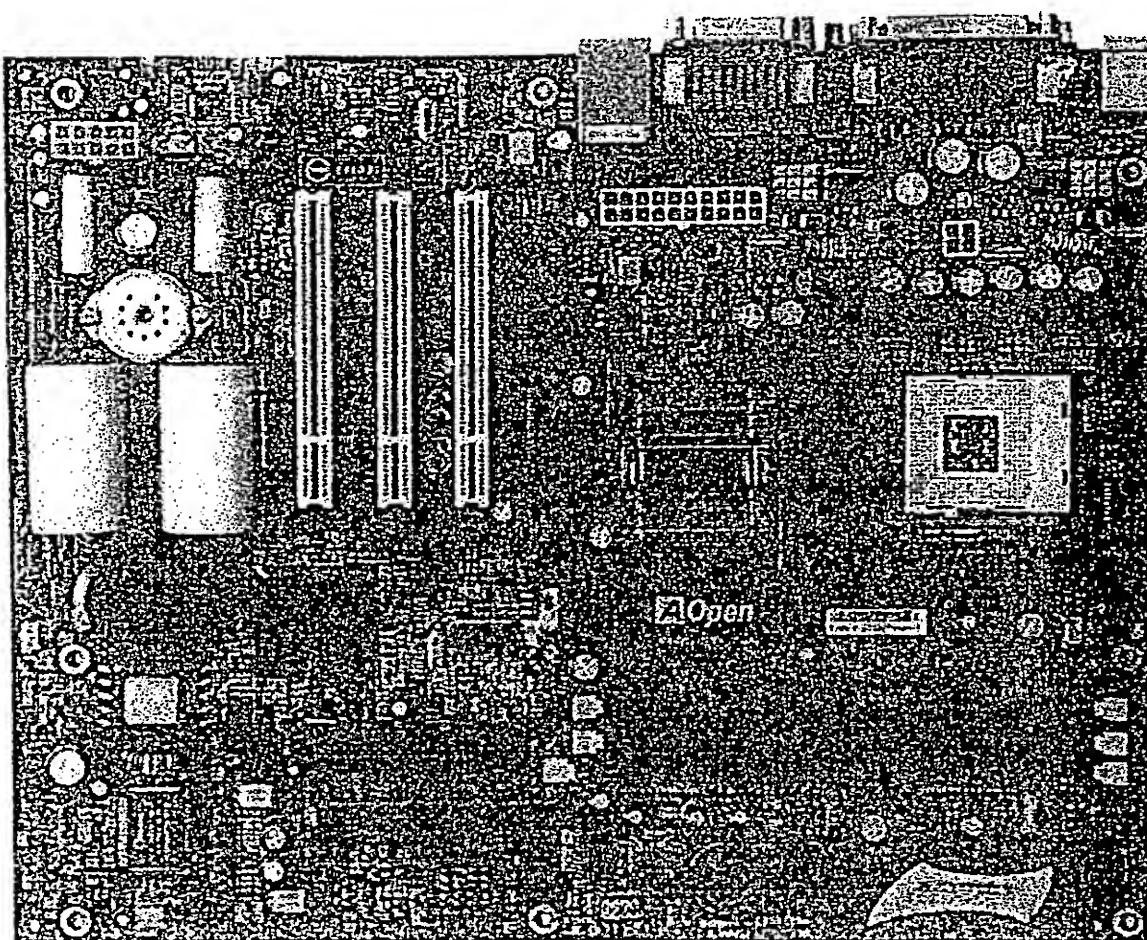
AX4B-533 Tube – The new Motherboard incorporates the novel, modern-day adoption of an idea that was spawned by the invention of the electric light bulb by Thomas A. Edison back in 1879 - the vacuum tube.

In taking this bold step towards audio perfection, AOpen's hybrid AX4B-533 Tube, unquestionably is targeted to a very exclusive niche market - passionate audiophiles and extreme gamers who are interested in building their own ultimate entertaining PCs. The motherboard is also certain to appeal to retailers that desire to cater to these two eccentric groups with custom-built PCs, delivered with matching speaker systems and the latest CD and DVD playback devices.

If you are interested in AX4B-533 Tube, please fill the application form to leave your information. We will provide you the latest news about Tube as soon as possible. To stop all e-mail tube news from AOpen, click this "Unsubscribe" link to unsubscribe it.

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## AX4B-533 Tube



**Close View of AX4B-533 Tube Motherboard**

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